

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Commission for a Drug Free Indiana**  
**Commission Meeting**  
**August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**

*Commission Members in Attendance:* Chairman John von Arx, James Lyons, Steve Camilleri, Dr. Tim Kelly, Donald Parker, Melissa Long, Steve Clouse, Rep. Luke Messer, and County Commissioner Bill McCormick

*Commission Member Absent:* Ms. Andrea Marshall, Sheriff Mark Frisbie, Senator Earline Rogers, Representative Vernon Smith, Representative Dennis Kruse

*ICJI Staff in Attendance:* Deputy Director of Policy and Administration, Donna Roberts, Director of the Drug & Crime Control Division, Steven King, Assistant Director, Sonya Cleveland, Program Assistant, Jessica Orr, and Meth Watch Coordinator, Cecilia Wylie, Roxanne Butler, Communications Director

*Governor's Office in Attendance:* Jason Barclay, Special Counsel and Policy Director

*Other Special Guests in Attendance:* Mara Reardon, Coordinator of the Local Coordinating Council in Lake County

*Welcome and Introductions:* Chairman John von Arx opened the meeting by welcoming all Committee Members. The members were requested to go around the Board Room and discuss their backgrounds and experiences in the fields of drug prevention, treatment, and education and to describe their interest in the Governor's Commission. The Chairman requested the ICJI staff to introduce themselves and explain his or her role in the Governor's Commission.

*Jason Barclay, Governors Office:* Jason began by acknowledging and thanking the Commission on behalf of the Governor. Heather Bolejack, Executive Director of ICJI, has been advancing the Criminal Justice Institute forward by successfully achieving positive goals for the state of Indiana.

Jason discussed the goals in which the Governor has set forth for the Commission:

- (1) "Never lose sight of the Meth epidemic that is occurring throughout the state of Indiana. Meth is a current problem and will continue to be an on-going problem for the state.
- (2) Never lose sight that you are one piece of the broader public safety perspective.
- (3) Track results in the state by setting aggressive goals and push forward to meet those goals. As a Commission, help drive down numbers in the fields of addiction and of those entering the criminal and juvenile justice system.
- (4) Be a great guardian of the taxpayer's money. Pay attention to the Local Coordinating Councils (LCC's) and their spending. Be sure to measure their performance and set aggressive goals and procedures for the counties to follow."

Donna announced that Heather is unable to attend as she is in D.C. While in D.C. she was able to secure federal support to assist the Commission with strategic planning in the coming months. More detail to follow.

*Steven King, Meth Update:* Steven King provided a Meth handout from the previous Meth Free Indiana Coalition Meeting. Steven specifically pointed out the Methamphetamine Protection Act of 2005 (SEA 444) and the parameters of the act that was enacted on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005. MethFreeIndiana.org web site has been established and the Meth Hot Line, 877-855-METH (6384), is currently available for the state of Indiana. Steven discussed that the

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Coalition (20 state agencies and 12 outside agencies) is meeting monthly and the working group of 8 agencies will be meeting every three weeks. Steven announced that on *Monday, August 22, 2005*, a press conference would be held for SAMHSA's, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Association, SPF (Strategic Planning Framework)-SIG Grant that has been awarded to Indiana for \$11.7 million over the next five years.. The press conference will take place in the Governor's office at 10:30 am. Steven King and Jason Barclay invited all Committee members to attend.

*Sonya Cleveland, the Presentation of the Governor's Commission:*

*History of the Commission:* Sonya Cleveland began the Committee Member meeting by discussing the power point slides. She briefly covered the history of the Commission and the date of its founding. Sonya discussed that the state of Indiana has 16 Community Consultants that cover all 92 counties.

*Purpose of the Commission:* Sonya discussed that the purpose at the State and Local policy level of the Commission was to provide the vision, expertise, and leadership to develop comprehensive statewide strategies to address the complex problems associated with alcohol and other drugs within the State. Chairman John von Arx stressed the term "develop," as well as the scope, communication and coordination activities of the Commission with all other alcohol and drug abuse efforts, including the Meth Free Indiana initiative.

Steven King discussed that currently, no written policies and procedures exist for the LCC's. Guidance is needed for the LCC's and the Community Consultants to require the proper investment of funds in achieving measurable and desired results. The new Commission must become a proactive body. Rep. Messer added based on his experience in Legislation, the Commission needs to be making recommendations to Legislators to help with the policies and guidelines. He also suggested that Commission bring forth all expertise to strategize solutions in developing policy.

Steven King began to discuss the Local Drug-Free Community Fund and how the money is obtained and spent in the local communities. Steven stated that the Committee needs to be aware of the Fund and develop specific guidelines for monies that are allocated. Sonya stated that information regarding the Local Drug-Free Community Fund will be covered in greater detail further on in the meeting.

*The Commission was dismissed for a short break to gather lunch.*

Commissioner McCormick asked Sonya about the role of the Community Consultants and to whom they report. Sonya answered that the Community Consultants act as a liaison between the Governor's Commission and the LCC's by providing guidance, support and technical assistance. Community Consultants report to Sonya and provide monthly reports, forward the Comprehensive Community Plans (CCP) and Updates. Sonya suggested that all CCP's, Updates, and monthly reports be submitted to the Commission for review of county activities.

*Mission and Goals:* Sonya read the original mission of the Governor's Commission that was developed in 1989, and suggested that the mission should be reviewed to ensure it accurately represents the current issues of the Commission. She suggested that "other

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behavioral health problems” be scrutinized as too broad in scope for the Commission objectives. Sonya continued to discuss the Commission’s goals that are a part of the Indiana Code. Steve Clouse suggested that the Commission needs to develop committees and subcommittees to address the issues in the community. Steven King also added that the mission for “collecting data” will be eased by CJI developing data information for Meth, LCC’s, and Consultant reports. The Indiana Prevention Resource Center (IPRC) is also collecting substance abuse data.

*Statutes for the Commission:* Sonya discussed the following statutes:

(1) Establishing the Governor’s Commission & Local Coordinating Councils

❖ IC 5-2-6-16

Sonya discussed that the LCC’s in each county established their own name and that a renewal process currently did not exist for each LCC. Chairman John von Arx suggested that a renewal process should be developed in every county to ensure that the best LCC in each county exists.

(2) Establishing the State Drug Free Communities Fund

❖ IC 5-2-10

(3) Establishing the County Drug Free Communities Fund

❖ IC 5-2-11

Sonya reviewed the fees for the Drug Free Communities Fund. They are assessed by drug related offenses (interdiction fee) of \$200-\$1000, and by a countermeasure fee (DUI’s, DWI’s, etc...) of \$200. 25% of this fund goes to the State Fund and 75% is goes to the community in the County Fund. Steven King added that the Commission needs to provide guidance, policies, and procedures to ensure that Fund money is being allocated appropriately in all counties. Steven made recommendations for the role of the Commission. He suggested:

- The Commission be in control of all LCC’s Comprehensive Community Plans- approval or disapproval
- The Commission maintain authority for policies and procedures for LCC’s to follow
- Help support and implement changes by Statute or administrative rule in order to better carry out the work of the Governor

Sonya discussed her role as Hendricks’ County Commissioner and her experience with an LCC, stating that she was unaware of the LCC in her county, and wants to provide greater awareness at the local level. Bill McCormick agreed that he is also uncertain of the functions being carried out by his county LCC.

Commission members were concerned about the relationship of LCC’s and the Commission in the past. Mara Reardon was asked to comment on the matter and spoke on behalf of her LCC, and the past problems of misallocation of money in Lake County. She stated that the previous Commission was aware of this fiscal problem, but told the county to deal with the problems on their own, at a time when the LCC was coming to the Commission for help. Lake County lost \$20,000 and is currently in the process of rebuilding their coalition. Sonya Cleveland then discussed that the LCC’s did not have a standing relationship with the Commission and the Commission rarely involved themselves with the LCC’s or the Community Consultants.

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**Commission for a Drug Free Indiana**  
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Sonya brought to the attention of the Commission members that in the past, the Commission was meeting only quarterly or less. Chairman von Arx indicated that according to statute, the Commission is required to meet monthly, and in order be consistent with statute and to be more effective, the full Commission must meet monthly.

Dr. Kelly compared the LCC's to the medical treatment field. Successful results are needed to ensure that the programs are working. Chairman von Arx discussed the need to zero in on the accounting of the 25% that comes back to the state. He wants to know where the money has gone and how it was distributed. Steve Clouse asked the dollar amount of the 25%. Steve King answered that each of the Community Consultants need to provide financial reports like SEMA. The Commission should require the LCC's to report their finances in each county in order to establish more accountability.

Steven King stated that the LCC's have the ability to raise money on their own through the Federal Grants process. These funds are not subjected to State Board of Accounts, like State and Community Drug Funds. Sonya informed the Commission that LCC's can hire coordinators for assistance and support.

- (4) The Alcohol and Drug Counter Measures Fee
  - ❖ IC 33-19-6-10
- (5) The Collection of Court Costs
  - ❖ IC 33-19-5, 1-6
- (6) The Distribution of Court Fees
  - ❖ IC 33-19-7

Sonya discussed that a lot of the Court Fees that are assessed by the Judges are never collected. Chairman John von Arx stated that it might be a great idea to partner with the Indiana Judicial Conference in order to better communicate and coordinate with the judiciary on assessing and collecting the fees more effectively.

**Statutory Role of the Commission:** Sonya discussed that a major role of the Commission is to establish roles, responsibilities, and performance standards for the LCC's. The Statute clearly gives authority for the Commission to develop policies and procedures for the LCC's. The Chairman suggested that the LCC's need to be measured by their successes and failures and the Commission should consider developing membership guidelines.

**LCC Comprehensive Plans & Updates:** Sonya began the discussion of the CCP's and Updates for the LCC's. Chairman von Arx suggested that the Commission should be able to access each County's CCP on the CJI website to provide full disclosure of information to the public and to eventually provide for a more effective forum of measuring success.

**Conclusion:** Chairman John von Arx wanted to add to the phrase "IT WORKS" (the closing slide in Sonya's presentation about the Commission) by ultimately being in position to add the phrase, "AND WE CAN PROVE IT!" He emphasized that the Commission needs to make the Consultants and the LCC's aware that they must prove the successes of the Governor's Commission. Measuring outcomes will be the only way the Governor will know that the program is working. Melissa Long indicated the current structure is great, but it needs to be re-tooled, implemented, and updated to meet current issues and conditions.

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*Ideas and Concepts for Next Meeting:*

- ❖ Formation of Subcommittees
- ❖ Additional training for the Consultants and Commission members
- ❖ Establish a set meeting schedule for each month (i.e. Third Wed. of each month)
- ❖ Send biographies and pictures of Commission members
- ❖ Preliminary planning for a new strategic plan for the Commission

*Meeting Adjourned*

*Next Meeting:* **SEPTEMBER TBA!**